

INTELLOFAX 24

INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 26 JUN 50

SUBJECT 33rd Infantry Battalion; 50th Infantry Battalion

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1A

1. The headquarters of 33rd Infantry Battalion "Dos Altos", Army Unit No. 9148, is located at Cheb (N51/P37). (1) The total battalion strength is 40 officers, 600 EM and one NCO school of 360 men. A partial list of battalion personnel follows:

- a. Commanding Officer: Col. Josef Henrych, a Czech, 45-50 years old, and a fanatical Communist. (2)
- b. Deputy C.O.: Lt. Col. Tomasovic. (3)
- c. Educational Officer: Lt. Holan, a Czech, 25 years old, and an ardent Communist.
- d. OBZ Officer: Lt. Malacek, 28 years old, and a fanatical Communist.
- e. C.O., 1st Co.: 1st Lt. Honz, a Czech, 25 years old, and a Communist.
- f. C.O., 2nd Co.: Lt. Karlik, a Czech 24 years old, and a Communist.
- g. C.O., 3rd Co.: 1st Lt. Certek, a Slovak, 23 years old, a former member of the Czech Corps in USSR. This company includes a sub-machine gun section.
- h. C.O., 6th Co.: Capt. Minarik, 24 years old, a former member of the Czech Corps in USSR. This is an infantry rifle company.
- i. C.O., 7th Co.: Lt. Dufka, 25 years old, and a Communist. This is a heavy artillery company.
- j. C.O. of the NCO School: Staff Capt. Machala, 40 years old, and an ardent Communist.

2. From 25 January to 5 February 1950, battalion winter exercises took place in the Cheb-As (Asch - N51/P18) - Zandov (Sandau - 051/F65) area.

CLASSIFICATION

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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Declassified

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

3. An Army Training Group is located at Kynzvart (N51/P56). The OBZ Officer is Staff Capt. Zunt. (4)

4. The 50th Infantry Battalion, Army Unit No. 2255, is garrisoned as follows:

- Battalion Headquarters is in Marianske Lazne (N50/P56) at the Hamerniky Barracks. Stationed here also are one headquarters company, one machine gun company and the 1st Infantry Company. The C.O. of the 50th Infantry Battalion is Colonel Adam Travnicky, 50 years old, married, a Communist and a sedist. The barracks is overcrowded, being occupied by about 2,500 troops.
- At the Hotel "Nadrazi" in Dolni Zandov (N51/P36) are stationed the 2nd and 3rd Infantry Companies. The C.O. of both companies is Capt. Solen, a Communist, 28 years old and single. The Educational Officer is Lt. Poncik, a fanatical Communist, 24 years old and married. One other officer is known, a Lt. Popelka, 28 years old and single.
- At Prameny (N51/P57) are stationed the 5th, 6th, and 7th Companies of the 50th Infantry Battalion and one company of the 33rd Infantry Battalion. The C.O. of this garrison is Capt. Vizner, an inactive Communist, 30 years old and married.

5. Training exercises were held by four reconnaissance companies at the Prameny garrison and in the vicinity of the village of Studenky. Training was conducted by Staff Capt. Karel Janda, a fanatical Communist, 40 years old and married. The objective of the training was siege of enemy lines at night, penetration of the rear of the enemy and seizure of prisoners and materiel.

6. At the Zandov garrison labor companies were digging anti-tank ditches and trenches. Trenches were dug at a distance of about 1 to 1½ km from the border (see annex). One-half the men were digging, the other half were exercising. The trenches were dug in the free area of the border zone. They were 4 meters wide and 4 meters deep, and were camouflaged from the German side. North of Oldrichov, trenches were dug by units from Cheb; south of Marianske Lazne were units from the Hamerniky Barracks.

7. Two or three times a week training alerts were held. Non-Communist soldiers were forced to remain in their quarters. During the alerts troops were transported to the border in trucks and armed with automatic weapons. Communists who were especially reliable were also armed with sub-machine guns while digging. One-half of the troops are Communist. It is rumored that by 1 October only reliable Communists will remain in the battalion. These will be well paid and enjoy special privileges.

Attachment: One sketch showing side view of anti-tank trenches, and plan of trenches
25X1X

25X1A (1) [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] lists the Army Unit No. of the "Dos Alto" (sic) Battalion as 4515, and adds the information that it is garrisoned in the Hostecke Barracks. 25X1X

25X1A (2) [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] describes Colonel of the General Staff Hendrych (sic) as 40 years old and married.

25X1A (3) [REDACTED] Comment: This information is given only by [REDACTED] 25X1X
(4) [REDACTED] Comment: Staff Capt. Zunt [REDACTED] as the Educational Officer.

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